



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Sanford, FL	Accident Number:	MIA07CA045
Date & Time:	01/27/2007, 1215 EST	Registration:	N20956
Aircraft:	Cessna 172S	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The pilot stated that he departed from Orlando Sanford International Airport, Sanford, Florida, with a new student on a discovery flight. He further stated that after exiting class C airspace, as he initiated a climb, a turkey buzzard impacted the airplane's right wing causing damage. The damage caused the airplane to turn to the right and severely limited his ability to control the airplane. According to the pilot it placed the airplane in a descending right spiral. The pilot recovered the airplane from the spiral and made a forced landing to a nearby field. During the landing the nose wheel dug into the ground and separated bringing the airplane to a stop. According to the pilot, prior to the buzzard impacting the airplane's wing, there were no mechanical failures or malfunctions to the airplane or any of its systems.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The inadvertent inflight collision with a bird resulting in damage to the airplane and the pilot having limited control capability.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) OBJECT - BIRD(S)
2. WING - BENT
3. AIRCRAFT CONTROL - DIMINISHED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH

Factual Information

Flight Instructor Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	36, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1	Last FAA Medical Exam:	09/01/2006
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	07/01/2006
Flight Time:	930 hours (Total, all aircraft), 603 hours (Total, this make and model), 778 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 13 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Student Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	22, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	09/01/2006
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	07/01/2006
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N20956
Model/Series:	172S	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	172S9564
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/01/2007, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2558 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	23 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1463 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-L2A
Registered Owner:	Kumar V. Sampath, C/O Teknocraft	Rated Power:	180 hp
Operator:	Falcon Flight Aviation	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SFB, 55 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	1153 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	150°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.16 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21° C / 10° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Sanford, FL (SFB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(SFB)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1205 EST	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	28.777778, -81.237500

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	John W Lovell	Report Date:	03/26/2007
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Marshall; FAA FSDO; Orlando, FL		
Publish Date:			
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).